

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-21 are pending. Claims 1, 4 and 18, which are independent, are hereby amended. Support is provided throughout the Specification, specifically on page 18 and Figures 5 and 8-9.

No new matter has been introduced. Changes to the claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

Title of this Application is hereby amended.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-9, 13, and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,583,560 to Florin et al. (hereinafter, merely "Florin") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,496,228 to McGee et al. (hereinafter, merely "McGee") and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,177,931 to Alexander et al. (hereinafter, merely "Alexander") and further in view of U.S. Patent 5,835,087 to Herz et al. (hereinafter, merely "Herz").

Claims 10-12, 14-17, and 19-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Florin in view of McGee, Alexander, Herz, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,977,974 to Hatori et al. (hereinafter, merely “Hatori”).

III. RESPONSE TO REJECTIONS

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

“...wherein a selected child screen is positioned in a center region of the menu screen by shifting the entire menu screen and gradually enlarged to encompass substantially all of the screen...” (emphasis added)

The Office Action (see page 5) relies on Figures 33-35 of Florin to reject the above-identified features of claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that Figures 33-35 of Florin illustrate a selected child screen displayed in another child screen at the center of the screen in direct contrast with Applicants’ claimed wherein a selected child screen is positioned in a center region of the menu screen by shifting the entire menu screen and gradually enlarged to encompass substantially all of the screen, as recited in claim 1 (emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully submit that Florin, McGee, Alexander, Herz, and Hatori, taken either alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest the features of claim 1. Specifically, Applicants submit that there is no teaching or suggestion of a selected child screen positioned in a center region of the menu screen by shifting the entire menu screen and gradually enlarged to encompass substantially all of the screen, as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to those described above with regard to independent claim 1, independent claims 4 and 18 are also believed to be patentable.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claims 1, 4 and 18 are patentable.

IV. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims are dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above, and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION


In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of the statements appearing above with respect to the disclosures in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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